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Imagery analysis report

Deployment of FITTER H — New Soviet Fighter Reconnaissance Variant (S)

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DEPLOYMENT OF FITTER H—NEW SOVIET FIGHTER RECONNAISSANCE VARIANT (S)

1. (S/D) This report provides imagery-derived information on the deployment of FITTER H aircraft to reconnaissance units at Soviet frontal aviation airfields (Table I and Figure I).

2. (S/D) The FITTER H is a single-seat FITTER E with a ground-attack capability. When used as a reconnaissance aircraft, it is equipped with a large centerline multifunction reconnaissance pod (Figure 2) with day/night photography and electronic intelligence collection capabilities.

The Soviets seem to be using FITTER H to complement and replace FISHBED H in the same pattern that FOXBAT B/D are being used in the BREWER and FISHBED reconnaissance units.

3. (S/D) Reconnaissance units at five airfields have not yet been updated with third-generation reconnaissance aircraft. These airfields are Karshi/Khanabad Airfield [] in the Turkestan Military District (MD); Krustpils Airfield [] in the Baltic MD; Varfolomeyevka South Airfield [] in the Far East MD; Kunmadaras Airfield [] in Hungary; and [] Karshi/Khanabad, Krustpils, and Kunmadaras each house a mixed reconnaissance regiment of BREWER and FISHBED. Varfolomeyevka South and [] each house a BREWER reconnaissance regiment. If the current trend continues, these airfields are likely to be upgraded with either FITTER H or FOXBAT B/D.

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [] Warsaw Pact Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, []

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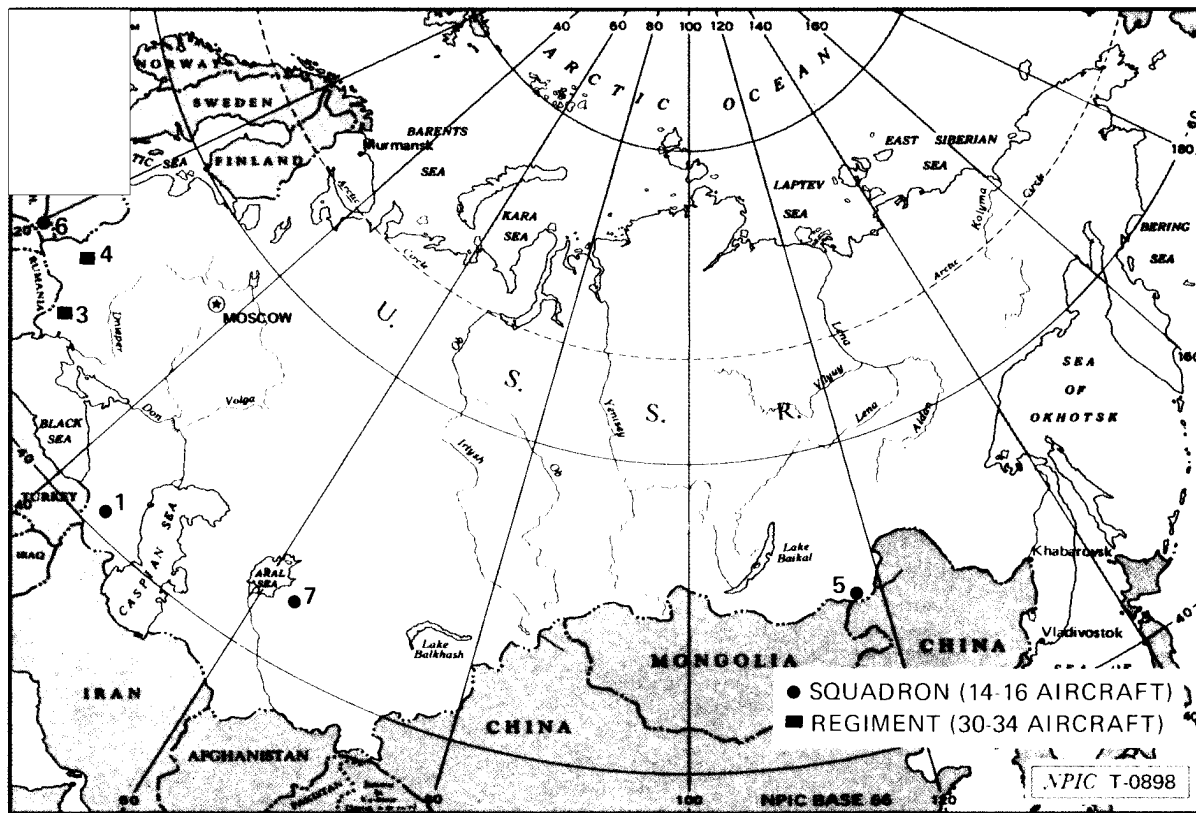


FIGURE 1. LOCATIONS OF FITTER H RECONNAISSANCE VARIANTS, USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE

Table 1.
Reconnaissance-Associated Soviet Frontal
Aviation Airfields With FITTER H Units
(Keyed to Figure 1)

This table in its entirety is classified SECRET/WNINTEL

Item	Airfield	BE Number	Military District/ Country	First Observation of FITTER	First Confirmation of FITTER H
1	Tbilisi/Vaziani		Transcaucasus	Apr 79	Sep 79
3	Limanskoye		Odessa	May 79	Jul 79
4	Chortkov		Carpathian	Jul 79	Jul 79
5	Borzya NW		Transbaykal	Sep 79	Sep 79
6	Sliač		Czechoslovakia	Oct 80	Dec 80
7	Chimkent		Central Asia	Dec 80	Jan 81

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